



2006 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

Display Report

PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Title:	Early Detection Rapid Response, Monitoring and Mapping of High Priority Invasives with Refuge Weed Warriors	
Region: Use region number ONLY	1	
Station:	Nisqually NWR Complex	
Contact Person: Name and Phone Number	Jean Takekawa, 360-753-9467	
Project Description: (Up to 250 words)	<p>This project plan was to initiate a program for early detection and response, monitoring and mapping of invasive species on Grays Harbor NWR and continued current efforts on Nisqually NWR by Refuge Weed Warriors. Efforts are to focus on detecting, treating, and monitoring new infestations of highest priority invasive plants. Several priority species pose a substantial threat and require an early detection rapid response program to preclude new infestations from becoming established. These include <i>Spartina</i> on and around Grays Harbor NWR and wild chervil and purple loosestrife on the Black River Unit of Nisqually. Monitoring and mapping of more established and widespread weeds such as <i>Phragmites</i>, Japanese knotweed, and tansy ragwort would also be of benefit. The program hinged on getting an SCA intern to coordinate the large volunteer effort to detect, map and monitor invasives utilizing existing Refuge GPS and GIS capabilities to collect data and maintain databases and maps.</p>	
List of Invasives Species Targeted:	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	Bull Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
	Common Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>
	Tansy Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
	Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
	Poison Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
	Knotweed, Japanese	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
	Spartina	<i>Spartina alterniflora or densiflora</i>
	Wild Chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
Project Status:	Completed	
Project Completion Date	09/30/2007	

or Estimated Completion Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteer Affiliation: (Check all that apply)	VA_FriendsGrp VA_SchoolGrp VA_AmeriCorps VA_GradIntern VA_CivicOrg VA_Other
Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	The Refuge has an existing group of volunteers called the Nisqually Refuge Weed Warriors that are significant in controlling emerging weeds. In addition, the Refuge recruited new volunteers to form the Grays Harbor Refuge Weed Warrior Program. Ninety volunteers gave over 621 hours to monitoring, surveying, removing and GPSing 27 species of invasive plants on the Refuge Complex. We hired an AmeriCorps-Washington Conservation Corps intern instead of an SCA intern to coordinate volunteers, mapping efforts and complete the project work started in FY2006 and finished in FY2007.
Total Number of Volunteers:	90
Total Number of Volunteer Hours:	621
Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	The Washington Conservation Corps is an important partner in this effort. Washington Department of Wildlife, and Grays Harbor and Thurston County Noxious Weed Agencies have also joined the effort in partnering to monitor Spartina and doing public outreach and education on Spartina in Grays Harbor. The Refuge also partnered with Ducks Unlimited and Friends of Nisqually on this project.

PROJECT RESULTS

Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	An AmeriCorps-Washington Conservation Corps intern was hired to coordinate the Refuge Weed Warrior program for FY06-07. She organized 32 work parties involving 90 volunteers, 70 of whom were first-time participants in the Weed Warrior program. Of the 70 new volunteers, 11 became the nucleus to form a new Grays Harbor RWW program. Over 27 species of non-native, invasive plant were monitored and over 64 monitoring surveys were conducted. Over 350 acres were surveyed and volunteers gave 621.5 hours to invasive plant control efforts on the Nisqually NWR Complex. Three community groups volunteered their time to control invasive species on the Refuges. They were NW Christian High School, Jubilee Service Group and Grays Harbor College Summer Watershed Leadership Program. Early detection by Refuge Weed Warriors and a rapid response by staff and volunteers lead to swift treatment of newly found noxious weeds such as perennial pepperweed (<i>Lepidum latifolium</i>), spurge laurel (<i>Daphne laureola</i>), and rose campion (<i>Lynchis coronarius</i>) at Nisqually NWR and will allow for eradication of these species at minimal cost. This year the Black River purple loosestrife was surveyed twice during its bloom time leading to greater species control. GIS database files damaged in a power outage were reconstructed and current field data on weed infestations was collected and used to update maps of invasive species at all three Refuge locations.
Number of Acres Treated:	20
Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:	350
Number of Acres Restored:	20

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget: Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

Total Grant Amount:	\$ 6,400
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Breakdown of Expenditures:

Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
Equipment / Supplies	\$1,211.92	19%
Chemical	\$87.49	1.4%
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel	\$100.59	1.6%
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$5,000	78%
Restoration Materials		
Other		
TOTAL	\$6,400	

Recommendations: (OPTIONAL) How useful was this program for meeting refuge invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?	
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